

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 14701 150912Z
ACTION STR-07

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PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652:NA
TAGS: EAGR, JA
SUBJECT: MINISTER NAKAGAWA'S AUG. 15 PRESS CONFERENCE
REMARKS

REF: TOKYO 14332

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF A NIHON KEIZAI ARTICLE COVERING REMARKS OF MINISTER NAKAGAWA CONCERNING HIS DINNER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD AUG. 18 AND COMMENTING ON HIS SEPTEMBER TRIP TO THE U.S.:

2. "AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE CABINET MEETING ON THE MORNING OF THE 15TH, AGRICULTURE-FORESTRY-FISHERY MINISTER NAKAGAWA CLARIFIED THAT HE WILL HOLD TALKS WITH US AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN MANSFIELD ON THE NIGHT OF THE 18TH, ON THE PROBLEM OF THE IMPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, WHICH IS NOW PENDING BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE US. IT IS SAID THAT THE AIM OF THE TALKS IS TO EXPLAIN THE PRESENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR COUNTRY'S BASIC WAYS OF THINKING TOWARD THE IMPORTS OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TOKYO 14701 150912Z

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

3. "AGRICULTURE-FORESTRY-FISHERY MINISTER NAKAGAWA WILL VISIT THE US AROUND SEPTEMBER 4, AND WILL HOLD NEGOTIATIONS WITH US PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS STRAUSS AND OTHERS. HE WISHES TO REACH A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND

THE US ON THE PROBLEM OF IMPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING HIS STAY IN THE US (FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK). THE TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD WILL BE HELD AT THE REQUEST OF AGRICULTURAL-FORESTRY-FISHERY MINISTER NAKAGAWA, AND IT IS SAID THAT THEY WILL HAVE THE MEANING OF "ADVANCE OPERATIONS" FOR HIS VISIT TO THE US.

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4. "AT THE TALKS, AGRICULTURE-FORESTRY-FISHERY MINISTER NAKAGAWA WILL EXPLAIN SUCH POINTS AS THAT (1) OUR COUNTRY'S PRINCIPLE FOR THE IMPORTS OF BEEF IS TO SUPPLEMENT THE SHORTAGE OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, AND WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THIS PRINCIPLE, OUR COUNTRY IS MAKING EFFORTS FOR THE EXPANSION OF DOMESTIC DEMAND AND BEEF IMPORTS, AND (2) WITH DOMESTIC FARM HOUSEHOLDS GROWING MIKAN BEING COMPELLED TO CARRY OUT A 20-PERCENT REDUCTION OF MIKAN PRODUCTION OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD, STARTING FROM NEXT YEAR, IT IS SAID THAT THE US SIDE'S REQUEST IS EXTREMELY STRONG, AND NO EASY-GOING PREDICTION CAN BE MADE AS TO HOW THE PRIOR COORDINATION WILL PROCEED."

MANSFIELD

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